

Appln. No. 09/975,620
Amdt. dated March 9, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed October 10, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this Application.

Listing of Claims:

1-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A mounting for a seat, comprising an annular elastic member having an axial length, an outer peripheral surface with a first shape and a passageway extending through said elastic member in an axial direction so as to define an inner peripheral surface; a core element positioned adjacent to and in contact with said inner peripheral surface of said elastic member, said core element having an axial through-passage; and an outer casing positioned adjacent to and in contact with said outer peripheral surface along substantially the entire axial length of said elastic member, said outer casing having a second shape which is complementary to said first shape of said outer peripheral surface of said elastic member.

16. (Currently Amended) The mounting of Claim [[15]] 21, wherein said core element has an axial through-passage.

17. (Previously Presented) The mounting of Claim 16, wherein said axial through-passage of said core element is tapered.

18. (Currently Amended) The mounting of Claim 15 or 16, wherein said elastic member is interposed between said core element and said outer casing.

19. (Currently Amended) The mounting of Claim 18, wherein said outer casing includes further comprising a top molding connected to said outer casing.

20. (Currently Amended) A mounting of Claim 19, wherein for a seat, comprising an annular elastic member having an outer peripheral surface and a passageway extending through said elastic member so as to define an inner peripheral surface; a core element positioned adjacent to and in contact with said inner peripheral surface of said elastic member, said core element having an axial through-passage; and an outer casing positioned adjacent to and in contact with said outer peripheral surface of said elastic member, said outer casing including a top molding and said outer casing has a bottom cup part in which said elastic member is seated, said elastic member being interposed between said core element and said outer casing.

21. (Currently Amended) The A mounting of Claim 20, wherein for a seat, comprising an annular elastic member having an outer peripheral surface and a passageway extending through said elastic member so as to define an inner peripheral surface, said elastic member has including a top section having a first diameter, a

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bottom section having a second diameter, and a central section positioned between said top and bottom sections and having a third diameter which is greater than said first and second diameters; a core element positioned adjacent to and in contact with said inner peripheral surface of said elastic member; and an outer casing positioned adjacent to and in contact with said outer peripheral surface of said elastic member, said outer casing including a top molding and a bottom cup part in which said elastic member is seated, said elastic member being interposed between said core element and said outer casing.

22. (Previously Presented) The mounting of Claim 21, wherein said elastic member has an annular recess extending from said inner peripheral surface toward said outer peripheral surface and wherein said core element includes a radially extending bead received within said recess of said elastic member.

23. (Previously Presented) The mounting of Claim 22, wherein said top molding includes a cut-out.

24. (Withdrawn) The mounting of Claim 23, wherein said core element has an axial projection extending into said cut-out of said top molding.

25. (Currently Amended) The mounting of Claim [[15]] 21, wherein said passageway is tapered.

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26. (Withdrawn) The mounting of Claim 15, wherein said core element includes a tapered shoulder surface.

27. (Withdrawn) The mounting of Claim 26, wherein said outer casing has a cup part which encases said elastic member.

28. (Withdrawn) The mounting of Claim 27, wherein said outer casing includes a flange connected to the seat.

29. (Currently Amended) The mounting of Claim [[15]] 21, wherein said elastic member is tapered.

30. (Currently Amended) The mounting of Claim [[15]] 21, wherein said elastic member is made of rubber; and wherein said core element is made of metal.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) The chair of Claim [[31]] 34, wherein said core element has an axial through-passage.

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33. (Currently Amended) ~~The A chair of Claim 31, wherein comprising a seat; an underframe connected to said seat; said underframe includes including a central column; said and a mounting being arranged on said central column of said underframe, said mounting including an annular elastic member having an outer peripheral surface and a passageway extending through said elastic member so as to define an inner peripheral surface; a core element positioned adjacent to and in contact with said inner peripheral surface of said elastic member; and an outer casing positioned adjacent to and in contact with said outer peripheral surface of said elastic member.~~

34. (Currently Amended) ~~The A chair of Claim 33, wherein said central column includes comprising a seat; an underframe connected to said seat, said underframe including a central column having an axially extending spring; and a mounting being arranged on said central column of said underframe, said mounting including an annular elastic member having an outer peripheral surface and a passageway extending through said elastic member so as to define an inner peripheral surface; a core element positioned adjacent to and in contact with said inner peripheral surface of said elastic member, and an outer casing positioned adjacent to and in contact with said outer peripheral surface of said elastic member.~~

35. (Previously Presented) The chair of Claim 34, wherein said axially extending spring is a pneumatic spring having an extensible push rod with a top end which extends into said axial through-passage of said core element.

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36. (Previously Presented) The chair of Claim 35, wherein said axial through-passage of said core element is tapered.

37. (Currently Amended) The chair of Claim 36, wherein said ~~mounting further~~ outer casing includes a top molding ~~connected to said outer casing~~, said seat being connected to said top molding.

38. (Withdrawn) The chair of Claim 37, wherein said seat includes a seat carrier, said top molding being formed by said seat carrier.

39. (New) The mounting of Claim 20, wherein said axial through-passage of said core element is tapered.

40. (New) The mounting of Claim 20, wherein said elastic member has a top section having a first diameter, a bottom section having a second diameter, and a central section positioned between said top and bottom sections and having a third diameter which is greater than said first and second diameters.

41. (New) The mounting of Claim 40, wherein said elastic member has an annular recess extending from said inner peripheral surface toward said outer

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peripheral surface and wherein said core element includes a radially extending bead received within said recess of said elastic member.

42. (New) The mounting of Claim 41, wherein said top molding includes a cut-out.

43. (New) The mounting of Claim 20, wherein said passageway is tapered.

44. (New) The mounting of Claim 20, wherein said elastic member is tapered.

45. (New) The mounting of Claim 20, wherein said elastic member is made of rubber; and wherein said core element is made of metal.

46. (New) The chair of Claim 33, wherein said core element has an axial through-passage.

47. (New) The chair of Claim 33, wherein said central column includes an axially extending spring.

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48. (New) The chair of Claim 47, wherein said axially extending spring is a pneumatic spring having an extensible push rod with a top end which extends into said axial through-passage of said core element.

49. (New) The chair of Claim 48, wherein said axial through-passage of said core element is tapered.

50. (New) The chair of Claim 49, wherein said outer casing includes a top molding, said seat being connected to said top molding.